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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

June 1981

STATE OF MONTANA
TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DAVID L. HUNTER, COMMISSIONER

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
FRED BARRETT, ADMINISTRATOR

Volume 11 - Number 6

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics X-11 variant of the Census Method II seasonal adjustment program.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six economic indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

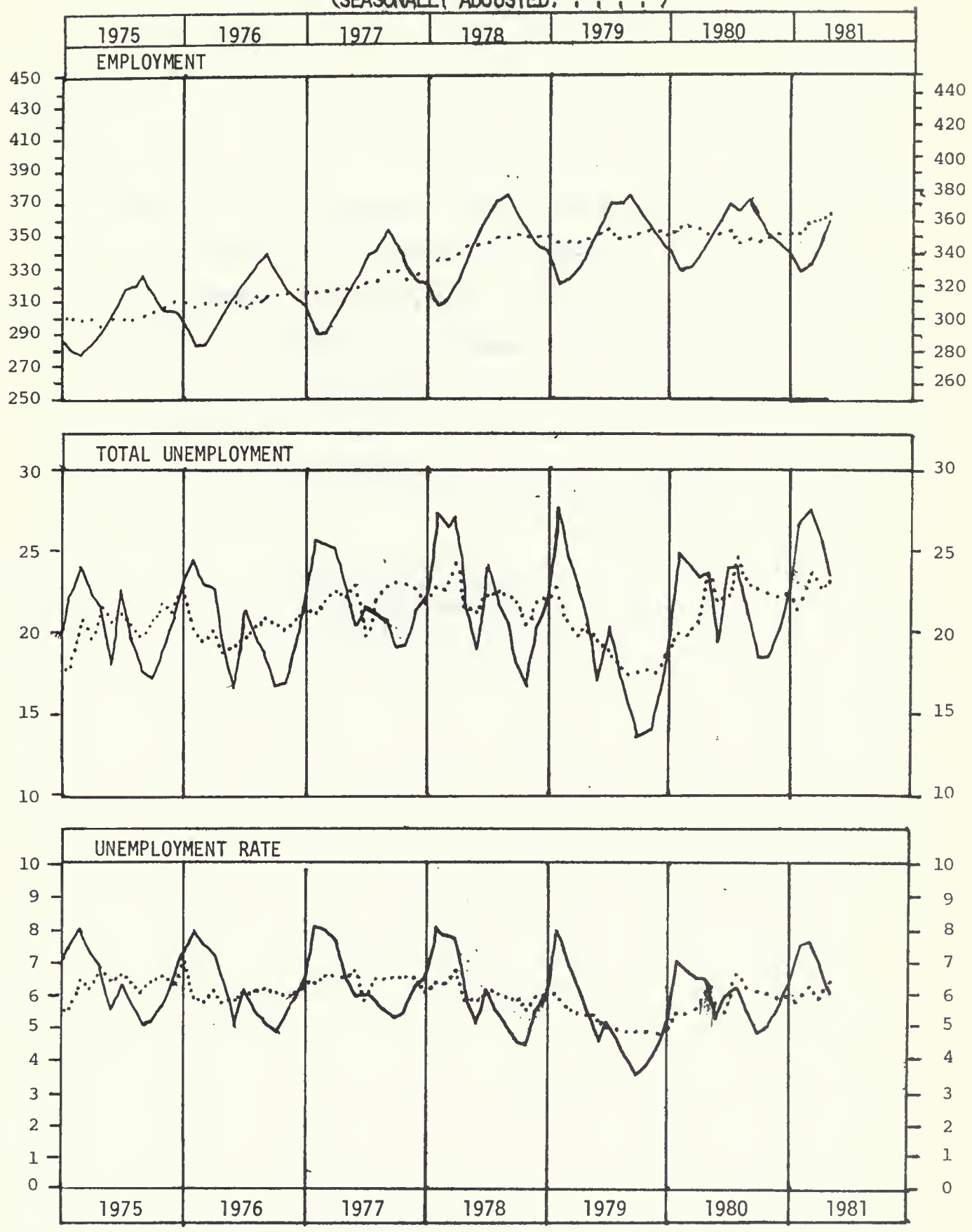
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: _____)
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: . . . .)



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis
Employment Security Division
P.O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	390.4	385.0	377.1	5.4	13.3
Employment	368.2	361.5	357.6	6.7	10.6
Unemployment	22.2	23.5	19.5	-1.3	2.7
Unemployment Rate	*5.7*	*6.1*	*5.2*	*-.4*	*.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Ten counties were declared disaster areas from the floods at the end of May. The ten counties form a triangle with Cascade, Gallatin and Missoula counties at the corners. Carbon County was added a week later as more precipitation caused flooding there. The high water caused extensive property damage and some loss of employment. Seventy-five percent of the disaster recovery money will come from the federal government and the remainder will be paid by state and local sources.

Agriculture employment is nearing its seasonal high. The extremely wet weather delayed field work and seeding of some spring crops was done quite late. Cultivating and irrigating are being done as the weather permits and the haying season is just beginning. The condition of the winter wheat and spring planted crops is reported good throughout most of the state.

Montana's mining industry has had different leaders over the years. Currently, coal extraction is at the head of the list but this might change soon. Coal production is somewhat ahead of last year but it is still well below the 2.5 million tons mined in 1979. The decline in the use of coal is blamed on the weather, conservation and the economy. The portion of the "Overthrust Belt" in the state is attracting much exploration. Oil and gas seismic studies have doubled in the last two years. If drilling activity is successful, the new mining industry leader may be oil and gas.

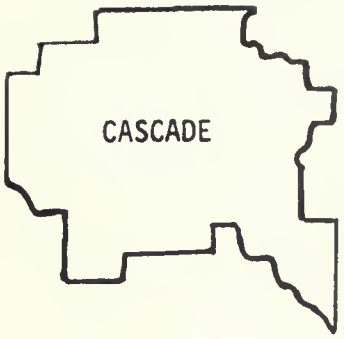
The number of building permits issued around the state is about the same as last year and still much lower than two years ago. Continuing high prime lending rates and a recent raise in the rates of Farmers Home Administration loans do not help. The lack of building continues to hurt the state's lumber industry. The western area of the state depends mostly on the timber industry and the five counties classified as labor surplus areas because they have such high unemployment rates are all in the west.

Tourist counts around the state are up sharply over last year and may surpass 1978 totals. Much of the increased tourism this year is credited to leveled off prices and a surplus of gasoline. Retail trade and hotel/motel industries will get a welcome lift from this increase in travel.

The unemployment rate dropped in May due to a nice increase in employment. Cutbacks in government employment, layoffs due to economic conditions in copper mining, continued soft lumber market, relocation of the headquarters of a major communications company and seasonal layoffs of school employees do not give a good outlook for the next few months.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	35.6	35.7	34.3	-.1	1.3
Employment	33.2	33.1	32.4	.1	.8
Unemployment	2.4	2.6	1.9	-.2	.5
Unemployment Rate	*6.8*	*7.3*	*5.6*	*-.5*	*1.2*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Cascade County was one of the counties declared a disaster area from the flood late in May. Property damage occurred all along the Missouri River. Three weeks after the high water had receeded in most areas, the river was still a foot and a half above flood stage at Great Falls. There were some temporary work stoppages from the wet weather.

The number of construction permits issued in May totaled 53--six less than in April and 20 less than May of 1980. Total value of the permits was $1.3 million which was also less than the previous month and less than the same month a year ago. Bids were accepted in June for a new 38,867 square foot grocery store to be built in the northwest area of the city. The estimated cost of building the new store is $1.6 million. This should provide a nice boost to construction in the coming months.

The search for energy is providing job opportunities for roustabouts, drillers, derrick workers, boiler mechanics, electricians and toolpushers. Training is needed for a number of the positions and Montana is an area where much of this exploration is going on. The possibility of establishing such a training center in Great Falls is currently being investigated by the Economic Growth Council. A fund of the Old West Regional Commission was used for a $13,000 grant to fund the study.

Area schools closed the first week in June. Many school employees and students are looking for summer work. The local Job Service noticed a sharp increase in new and additional unemployment insurance claims as school employees were laid off. The Youth Employment Corps began their program to employ 220 low income youth in a six county area that includes Cascade County.

Two years of contract negotiations have not solved the problems between the City and the Plumbers and Fitters Union as pickets began to appear the first of June at some work sites. The school district and the teachers are also attempting to negotiate a new contract as the present two year contract expires June 30.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	58.8	58.7	56.1	.1	2.7
Employment	56.4	56.1	54.0	.3	2.4
Unemployment	2.4	2.6	2.1	-.2	.3
Unemployment Rate	*4.2*	*4.4*	*3.8*	*-.2*	*.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Reports on economic activity in the Billings area consist mostly of business slowdowns and a large number of layoffs. A couple of labor negotiations were also reported. With Billings being in an energy development area, it is expected to show considerable growth in the coming years. Energy development will be added to the coal and oil business along with Billings being a major wholesaler. Billings is expected to be a major regional center soon.

A Boise company recently announced the layoff of 25 persons in its housing manufacturing plant in Laurel. They said the layoff was due to a lack of orders. The orders dropped from a high average of 15 per week to a new average of 5 per week. Another manufacturing firm has also laid off workers due to a lack of sales. Four persons were affected by the layoff.

A packing plant and a tractor and equipment dealer together have laid off 24 persons. Seven employees were also affected when an insurance business laid off its staff and underwent an audit and reorganization.

Also in Billings, a dinner theatre has announced that they cannot afford to stay open when business is so slow. A record store has also closed and is moving to North Dakota. Three employees went without work when a bathroom fixture store decided it could not stay in business.

A Billings based marketing division for a major oil company will be closing on September 1, 1981. The sparce population of the area was their reason for moving because it was too expensive to leave a division office there.

Fire destroyed a golf course club house and delayed the opening of the club. A new building is expected to be completed in a couple of weeks.

Billings will have a new deli soon. Also new is an electrical construction company which established a district office in Billings. They presently employ 25 persons and expect to employ up to 200 persons with work to be done in the Colstrip area.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	36.3	35.5	35.0	.8	1.3
Employment	33.9	32.8	33.3	1.1	.6
Unemployment	2.4	2.7	1.7	-.7	.7
Unemployment Rate	*6.7*	*7.5*	*5.0*	*-.8*	*1.7*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

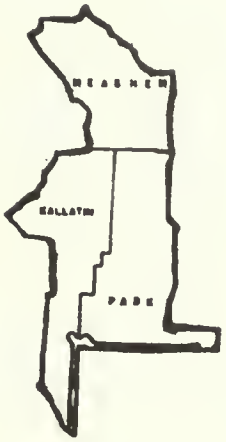
Four hundred workers are laid off at copper mines and the concentrator in Butte. The primary reason for the layoffs is the weak copper market which has been affected by declining auto sales and home construction. The market price for copper is 76¢ a pound and production costs are over $1 a pound. The layoffs will stop the exploration project in an underground mine. Daily production of 44,000 tons of ore a day from the open pit and 20 tons per month from the concentrator is expected to continue despite the employment cutback.

Flooding caused Butte-Silver Bow, Granite and Powell counties to be declared disaster areas the first of June. The worst property damage was reported in the city of Deer Lodge. A center was set up in Deer Lodge to help people apply for disaster relief assistance. Some temporary unemployment occurred as heavy rain showers stopped outdoor work in May.

Agriculture work consisted mostly of cultivating, fencing and irrigating over the previous month. Peak employment of agriculture workers starts the end of June as the haying season begins. Area crops look good. Range feed supplies are providing excellent grazing.

The search for energy is continuing in Beaverhead County. Several oil companies have submitted operating plans for exploration in the area. The companies bring most of the crews with them, but if any quantity of oil and gas is found, it will have quite an impact on Dillon.

The manufacturing industry shows signs of improvement. Attracted by a low interest loan, a trained labor force and better access to the market, a company which makes plastic products is moving its factory from Hamilton to Anaconda. The firm now employs 30-40 people and projects 180 workers next year and 500 by 1985. A Deer Lodge man will begin producing his invention, a welding helmet, in June. The firm will employ 6 to 8 people to manufacture 50 helmets a day at first. If the market is as good as hoped they will eventually expand the operation by a factor of 5 to 10. An independent logging operation has opened a sawmill southwest of Dillon.



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	26.8	26.8	27.0	0	-.2
Employment	25.5	25.2	25.6	.3	-.1
Unemployment	1.3	1.6	1.4	-.3	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*4.8*	*5.8*	*5.1*	*-1.0*	*-.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Heavy precipitation the end of May caused severe flooding in the area. Gallatin and Meagher Counties were declared disaster areas. The flooding not only caused personal property damage but also a slowdown in outdoor work activity. The Job Service offices have reported some temporary layoffs and a rise in initial claims for unemployment due to the wet weather.

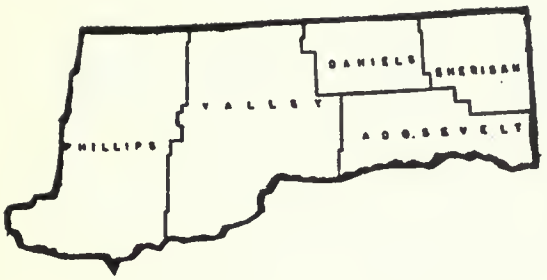
Agriculture employment is nearing its summer peak as field work continues when possible and the first crop of hay is ready for cutting. There have been several job openings in the Bozeman area for qualified farm equipment mechanics and farm or ranch hands and couples. The supply of workers in the area is meeting the increased demand.

Logging was especially affected by the wet weather. Logging roads became impassable and were closed preventing the mills from receiving logs. One sawmill closed for a week because it ran out of logs.

There were four more building permits issued in Bozeman in May of this year than in the same month last year. The value of the 22 permits issued this year, however, was only $373,000 compared with $1.1 million for the 18 last year. Some major commercial building projects should provide a boost for construction in June. Work on a restaurant and a new City Library has begun. Contracts for a water treatment plant and $4.5 million worth of additions and remodeling to the Student Union Building at the university have been awarded. The general contractor and electrical contractor for the Student Union Building are Bozeman firms. Another bright spot for construction workers is at Big Sky where fifty people have been building condominiums all winter, twelve units are now under construction and forty more are to be built this summer.

Tourism is providing for numerous summer job openings in motel and restaurant work in Bozeman, Livingston, and the entrances to Yellowstone Park. Frequently the demand for workers exceeds the supply. Retail trade is also increasing and providing some jobs for sales clerks.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	18.8	18.2	17.5	.6	1.3
Employment	18.1	17.5	17.0	.6	1.1
Unemployment	.7	.7	.5	---	.2
Unemployment Rate	*3.9*	*3.9*	*2.8*	---	*1.1*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

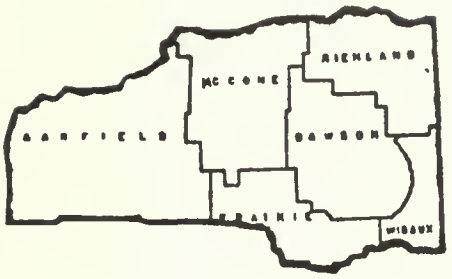
Work on a natural gas pipeline is now in full swing in the LMA. Actual construction of the pipeline started near the middle of June, but the unloading, welding, and hauling of pipe has been going on for over a month. A work force of 600-800 will be maintained in the area for several months. Craft unions with headquarters in Great Falls are handling much of the job placements for employees involved in actual pipeline construction. Officials report inquiries from all areas of the country, and point out there are already waiting lists for many craft positions.

Recent rainfall of two to four inches has made grain and grass conditions look much better. Field work activity picked up pace and openings for irrigators were reported. The rain slowed seismic exploration which was slow to begin with--two crews moved out of the area, but some new crews have located near Wolf Point. Activity in retail trade is up due to the pipeline crews and other activity at an area industrial park. Construction activity was slow through the period and no new major projects are expected. Four sub-contractors did begin work on a tribal housing project near Wolf Point, however.

GLENDIVE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	17.2	16.8	16.2	.4	1.0
Employment	16.8	16.4	15.9	.4	.9
Unemployment	.4	.4	.3	---	.1
Unemployment Rate	*2.3*	*2.4*	*2.0*	*-.1*	*.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Hotel/motel construction projects highlight the area economy this period. In Glendive, $1.25 million of industrial revenue bonds were issued to finance construction of a new 60-unit motel. Fifty to seventy construction workers will be hired for the job which should be finished in about seven months. Fourteen permanent jobs will be created at the motel. In Sidney, work is to begin this month on a new 60-unit motel; two other 100-unit motels are also in the planning stage. $1.5 million will be spent in Glendive on a project to expand two elementary schools. Work should begin this month and last until January.

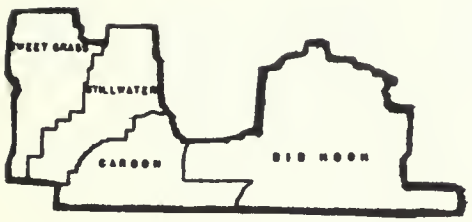
Several commercial building projects continued through the period in Sidney--a truck repair shop, a body shop, a fencing company facility, and a car wash. The weather slowed highway construction, but several home construction projects continued without interruption. Activity in the oilfields was stable; a new oil service company opened in Sidney employing eleven rig consultants.

Activity in agriculture was stable. Calving is complete and branding should start soon. Migrant workers are moving into the area to do sugar beet thinning. A severe frost killed over 10,000 acres of sugar beets this period.

HARDIN - RED LODGE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	14.5	14.0	14.1	.5	.4
Employment	13.8	13.4	13.6	.4	.2
Unemployment	.7	.6	.5	.1	.2
Unemployment Rate	*4.9*	*4.3*	*3.5*	*.6*	*1.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Agriculture activities are increasing as spring seeding is completed, sugar beet thinning is near the halfway mark, haying is starting and irrigating and summer fallowing proceed as needed. Wet conditions in May delayed some seeding and the deadline for getting the spring grain planting done to qualify for crop insurance was changed from May 20 to May 30. Field work was again delayed early in June as heavy precipitation caused the Clark Fork of the Yellowstone River to go over its bank and flood many areas in Carbon County.

Demand for coal is comewhat better than last year when the major coal mines in southeastern Big Horn County produced 11.3 million tons of coal but production is still lower than in 1979. The low demand for coal is blamed on the economy, the mild winter and conservation. Core drilling tests will be conducted this summer on a coal bed that contains about 100 million tons of coal in the Joliet area. Mining of the coal is not anticipated in the near future because of the soft market for the product.

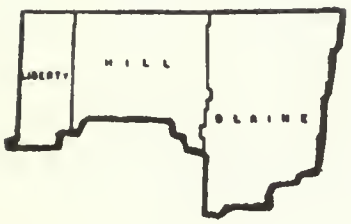
Another seismograph crew started to work in Carbon County in June. The Red Lodge office of an oil exploration firm is moving to new quarters and expanding its staff. At the oil and gas lease sale in June, the dozen tracts in Stillwater County brought from $5.25 to $31.50 per acre while the single tract leased in Carbon County netted $15.00 an acre.

Construction work is progressing as weather permits. Recent flooding in the area will necessitate some unanticipated work. Plans for the Busby-Kirby road look good, but the proposal is not ready to be submitted to the State Highway Department. The Big Horn County Library will be remodeled this summer.

School boards are setting budgets and negotiating new contracts with school employees. At the school in Columbus, the cooks, bus drivers and janitors were given a 10% salary increase. In Red Lodge, the teachers and school board have settled on a 10.9% increase; the new base is now $12,000. The school budget in Hardin was increased by about 21 percent.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	13.8	13.5	13.3	.3	.5
Employment	13.1	12.8	12.7	.3	.4
Unemployment	.7	.7	.6	0	.1
Unemployment Rate	*5.1*	*5.1*	*4.6*	*0*	*.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Grain crops and stock water supplies have improved due to moisture received over the reporting period. Hiring of agriculture workers was quite slow during May. Reports show that the Havre Job Service received seven openings for farm and ranch workers in May. These numbers should increase as harvesting of the hay crop begins in June.

Seismic exploration activity north of Havre was delayed as the industry is not willing to pay the compensation that the landowners are demanding. South of town, however, a Canadian firm is shooting twelve charges per mile after meeting the landowner's demands. The Tiger Ridge field, south of Chinook has produced oil shows in a 4,140 foot well drilled by a Havre firm.

Construction in the area is progressing as a new bank building was completed, a grocery store is nearly finished and foundations were poured for two other commercial buildings. Work has begun on a library addition to an elementary school in Havre. A Chinook firm was awarded the $8,500 contract for the concrete and preparation work.

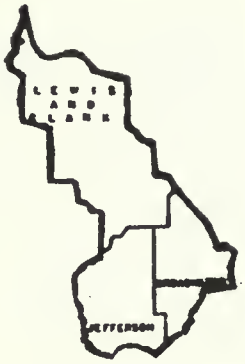
Ninety-two businesses and corporations in the area have registered with the Secretary of State so far this year. This is nearly fifty percent more than had registered through May of last year. The Havre Job Service reports that several businesses are having grand openings in June.

Temporary cutbacks at a tractor manufacturing firm, seasonal layoffs of school employees and elimination of CETA positions is keeping the Unemployment Insurance Claim load high. Many people living on the Indian reservations have relied on work programs funded by the government. Cuts in the Federal Budget have eliminated many of these programs and some tribal council members on the Rocky Boy reservation estimate the unemployment rate there will increase sharply.

HELENA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	29.9	29.2	28.7	.7	1.2
Employment	28.5	27.9	27.5	.6	1.0
Unemployment	1.4	1.3	1.2	.1	.2
Unemployment Rate	*4.5*	*4.5*	*4.3*	*0*	*.2*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

All three counties in the area were declared disaster areas due to flooding which occurred the end of May. Property damage and some loss of work resulted from the high water. State and Federal teams set up special offices to help people file claims for disaster relief. Some temporary clerks and interviewers were hired to staff these offices. The Young Adult Conservation Corps is providing 18 people to help clean up flood damage in the area.

Agriculture has benefited from the moisture received over the last month. Crop and range conditions are good and should improve with warm weather. There was some extra work for fencers to repair enclosures damaged during the flood. Demand for haying help is expected soon as the first crop of alfalfa is ready for cutting.

Residential construction is surpassing last year. The City building department has issued 56 new residential permits during the first five months of this year. Permits for only 21 new residential units were issued in the first five months of 1980. Many people are choosing to remodel or build additions to their present home rather than build a new home with high interest rates on the borrowed money. There have been 74 permits issued for remodeling this year which appears to be more than the department has issued for the last five years.

The local economy will soon feel the effects of a relocation by a private employer and reduction in government work force. A communication company, the largest single private employer in Helena, is removing a substantial portion of its payroll as restructuring will close the company's Montana headquarters. Many of their employees will be asked to relocate or be laid off. Another state department handed out 55 termination slips the end of May. City government will lay off five people the end of June.

KALISPELL LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	38.1	37.9	38.1	.2	0
Employment	34.3	33.8	34.2	.5	.1
Unemployment	3.8	4.1	3.9	-.3	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*9.8*	*10.8*	*10.2*	*-1.0*	*-.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Economic activity in the Kalispell LMA consists of some new construction projects and seasonal employment in some industries. Warm dry weather during the first half of this reporting period allowed seasonal work to continue at a normal pace, but the last half of the period consisted of frequent rains which curtailed some outdoor work and slowed seasonal employment.

Construction in the LMA includes a few new projects reported at this time. In Kalispell, a Valier firm was awarded a $1,342,900 contract for the addition to a hospital. They will be adding a laboratory, a radiology section and an intensive care unit. In St. Ignatius, a 3,600 square foot addition to a bank building is planned. Also in St. Ignatius is a new restaurant and saloon. An $830,000 kiln dryer was added to the post and pole yard near Dixon. This new complex will employ 25 full-time persons and 7 part-time workers.

Construction in Polson remains very slow with alot of workers waiting to be called back to work by former employers. In May, building permits in Polson included a 4-plex, a new residence, and several small home improvements. The total of the permits issued was $730,000.

A mine development located 17 miles south of Troy is employing some former loggers experienced in operating moving equipment in the woods. Alot of young laborers are also employed. When the mine reaches full production, which is expected sometime this quarter, there will be 310 persons working there.

Lumber mills are talking of more layoffs if the market does not pick up. They are now running two different shifts every other week. Mills are not real optimistic about starting up on a full production scale.

Agricultural activity is made up of Christmas tree cultivation, and shearing is expected soon. Spud planting in the area is not far off. Activity was slowed somewhat by the frequent rains toward the second half of the reporting period.

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	11.3	11.0	11.4	.3	-.1
Employment	10.9	10.6	11.0	.3	-.1
Unemployment	.4	.4	.4	---	---
Unemployment Rate	*3.3*	*3.2*	*3.9*	*.1*	*-.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

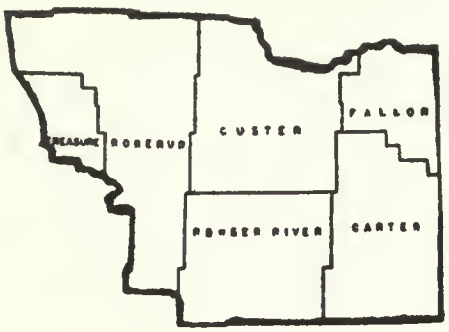
Activity was generally stable in most industry groups through the period with some minor exceptions in construction and forestry. One construction firm had to lay off several heavy equipment operators when wet weather made further work difficult. In building construction, two major commercial projects begun earlier this year are nearly complete with finish work the main activity. No new projects were announced this period. In forestry, slow business and soggy logs took their toll on employees at a lumber mill. Layoffs were made at the mill through most of the period with some being called back later. Activity in agriculture was also slowed due to damp conditions, but field work is being done as conditions permit.

There was continued demand for service workers--cooks, waitresses, and maids--due in part to a slight increase in tourism. All other occupations have an adequate supply of labor except for a shortage of auto mechanics.

MILES CITY LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	18.1	17.5	17.1	.6	1.0
Employment	17.5	16.8	16.5	.7	1.0
Unemployment	.6	.7	.6	- .1	0
Unemployment Rate	*3.5*	*3.7*	*3.6*	*-.2*	*-.1*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Heavy construction received a boost from a pipeline and a power line development. A new pipeline to carry crude oil will run from Belfield, ND to the Baker Station between Baker and Plevna, MT. The estimated cost for the project is $9 million and is scheduled to start in June. A new power plant is being built between Miles City and New Underwood, ND this summer.

Colstrip continues expansion in services and trade development to meet the needs of the power plant workers. The high school and one elementary school are adding modular classroom buildings. One restaurant expanded into a 24 hour operation. Some of the construction projects include a water treatment plant, an auto supply store, highway expansion, trailer courts and a 100-unit housing project.

The power plant employment is over 1,000 and increasing. However, the unions report that there still is a sufficient number of names on the out-of-work list.

MISSOULA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	51.6	51.2	49.5	.4	2.1
Employment	47.7	46.8	46.0	.9	1.7
Unemployment	3.9	4.4	3.5	-.5	.4
Unemployment Rate	*7.6*	*8.6*	*7.0*	*-1.0*	*.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The lumber and logging employment continues to be sluggish. Recent heavy rains reduced the number of logs that can be removed from the forest and processed in the mill. Many of the mills are on reduced working hours status or have to shut down for one to three week intervals. Also, the continued slow construction of housing is still a major factor in keeping the lumber and woods industry from returning to normal capacity. A pulp plant near Frenchtown was involved in a two day labor dispute. Nearly 600 workers waited for a new contract agreement to be reached by the company officials and union negotiators.

The Missoula's high school and vo-tech teachers continue their labor dispute. A State mediator has been assigned for negotiating a settlement. The state will hold back some funding for next year's budget because the required school days were not completed.

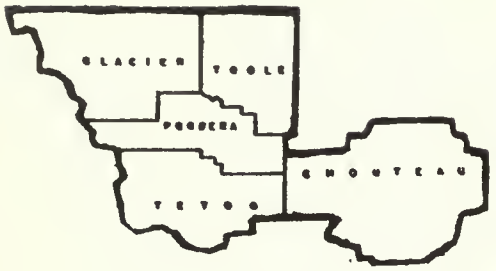
Mall expansion has become a major issue for the Missoula City Council to determine. The mall associates have two proposals--a drug store and hardware-home center that would be about 56,000 square feet and a four-store, 125,000 square foot addition. A market study sponsored by the proponents indicates there is room for expansion in those retail markets in Missoula. Other local businessmen disputed that mall expansion would hinder the development and refurbishing of the downtown area. Also noted that one of the major objections to the expansion project is its use of industrial revenue bonds. Many businesses resent the fact that the mall developers can obtain low-interest financing through the bonds, while they are borrowing money at 20 percent to upgrade their businesses.

The increase in tourism this summer has helped the service and trade industries activities. Agriculture activity is in a lull with little hiring noted.

SHELBY LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	19.5	18.9	18.7	.6	.8
Employment	18.5	18.0	17.9	.5	.6
Unemployment	1.0	.9	.8	.1	.2
Unemployment Rate	*5.0*	*4.8*	*4.1*	*.2*	*.9*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

This labor market area, made up of Glacier, Toole, Pondera, Chouteau, and Teton counties are included with Cascade County to participate in a youth program. The program will employ 220 young persons for 32 to 39 hours per week, between June 8 and September 30.

Ground is being cleared for a new car/truck wash in Shelby. It is anticipated that two other businesses will be opening. They include a glass shop and a chiropractic clinic. Several residential building permits were issued in Shelby during this reporting period.

Placements filled in the Cut Bank area include placements in eating establishments, construction laborers, and limited farm help.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Insured Unemployment*		
	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980
Non-White	*16.1%*	*16.0%*	*11.1%*
Female	*23.3%*	*19.3%*	*21.2%*
Youth	*5.4%*	*5.1%*	*7.1%*
Over 45	*21.1%*	*22.2%*	*19.3%*

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S. [1/]

All Items

(1967 = 100)

	1979		1980		1981	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	204.7	204.7	233.2	233.3	260.5	260.7
February	207.1	207.1	236.4	236.5	263.2	263.5
March	209.1	209.3	239.8	239.9	265.1	265.2
April	211.5	211.8	242.5	242.6	266.8	266.8
May	214.1	214.3	244.9	245.1	269.0	269.1
June	216.6	216.9	247.6	247.8		
July	218.9	219.4	247.8	248.0		
August	221.1	221.5	249.4	249.6		
September	223.4	223.7	251.7	251.9		
October	225.4	225.6	253.9	254.1		
November	227.5	227.6	256.2	256.4		
December	229.9	230.0	258.4	258.7		
AVERAGE	217.4	217.7	246.8	247.0		

[1/] *The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.*

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table I

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	Percent 1/ U. S.	
1979								
January	348.7	321.0	299.5	21.3	27.7	*7.9*	*6.4*	*
February	349.2	324.6	301.4	23.2	24.6	*7.1*	*6.4*	1.1
March	353.7	331.1	303.3	27.8	22.6	*6.4*	*6.1*	*
April	364.2	343.8	309.6	34.2	20.4	*5.6*	*5.5*	*
May	373.0	356.0	320.7	35.3	17.0	*4 6*	*5.2*	.1
June	391.6	371.2	331.0	40.2	20.4	*5.2*	*6.0*	.1
July	388.5	370.9	327.9	43.0	17.6	*4.5*	*5.8*	*
August	391.1	375.4	329.4	46.0	15.7	*4.0*	*5.9*	.1
September	381.0	367.4	331.5	35.9	13.6	*3.6*	*5.6*	*
October	371.1	357.2	326.7	30.5	13.0	*3.8*	*5.6*	*
November	365.3	349.7	323.5	26.2	15.6	*4.3*	*5.6*	*
December	362.6	343.8	321.2	22.6	18.8	*5.2*	*5.6*	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	*5.1*	*5.8*	.1
1980								
January	354.8	329.9	309.1	20.8	24.9	*7.0*	*6.8*	.7
February	356.4	332.6	310.0	22.6	23.8	*6.7*	*6.8*	1.1
March	363.0	339.6	312.4	27.2	23.4	*6.5*	*6.6*	.7
April	370.7	347.2	313.8	33.4	23.5	*6.4*	*6.6*	.3
May	377.1	357.6	323.2	34.4	19.5	*5.2*	*7.0*	.2
June	394.7	370.9	331.7	39.2	23.8	*6.0*	*7.8*	.2
July	390.4	366.3	324.3	42.0	24.1	*6.2*	*7.9*	2.7
August	393.8	372.7	327.8	44.9	21.1	*5.4*	*7.5*	2.6
September	381.5	363.0	328.0	35.0	18.5	*4.8*	*7.1*	3.1
October	372.2	353.7	323.9	29.8	18.4	*5.0*	*7.1*	1.3
November	368.4	348.3	322.7	25.6	20.1	*5.5*	*7.1*	1.3
December	364.7	342.1	320.1	22.0	22.6	*6.2*	*6.9*	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	*6.0*	*7.1*	1.2
1981								
January	354.6	328.1	307.3	20.8	26.5	*7.5*	*8.2*	*
February	362.4	334.9	312.8	22.1	27.5	*7.6*	*8.0*	*1.0*
March	371.3	345.7	319.2	26.5	25.6	*6.9*	*7.7*	*
April	385.0	361.5	328.9	32.6	23.5	*6.1*	*7.0*	*
May	390.4	368.2	334.6	33.6	22.2	*5.7*	*7.1*	.4
June	*405.7*	*380.4*	*342.1*	*38.3*	*25.3*	*6.2*	*7.3*	.4
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA

Table II

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1979								
January	33.3	30.2	29.4	.8	3.1	*9.4*	*7.9*	*
February	33.1	30.4	29.5	.9	2.7	*8.3*	*7.1*	*
March	33.5	31.0	29.9	1.1	2.5	*7.5*	*6.4*	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.2	*6.5*	*5.6*	*
May	34.4	32.5	31.1	1.4	1.9	*5.5*	*4.6*	*
June	35.1	32.9	31.3	1.6	2.2	*6.2*	*5.2*	*
July	35.0	32.9	31.2	1.7	2.1	*6.0*	*4.5*	*
August	35.0	33.1	31.3	1.8	1.9	*5.5*	*4.0*	*
September	34.5	32.8	31.4	1.4	1.7	*4.8*	*3.6*	*
October	33.3	31.9	30.7	1.2	1.4	*4.1*	*3.8*	*
November	33.2	31.4	30.4	1.0	1.8	*5.4*	*4.3*	*
December	32.9	31.0	30.1	.9	1.9	*5.7*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	33.0	30.5	29.7	.8	2.5	*7.7*	*7.0*	*
February	33.0	30.7	29.8	.9	2.3	*7.0*	*6.7*	*
March	33.7	31.5	30.4	1.1	2.2	*6.6*	*6.5*	*
April	33.5	31.4	30.1	1.3	2.1	*6.3*	*6.4*	*
May	34.4	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.0	*5.6*	*5.2*	.2
June	34.8	32.1	30.5	1.6	2.7	*7.7*	*6.0*	.2
July	35.3	32.6	30.9	1.7	2.7	*7.8*	*6.2*	.5
August	35.5	33.1	31.3	1.8	2.4	*6.8*	*5.4*	.4
September	34.8	32.7	31.5	1.2	2.1	*6.0*	*4.8*	.4
October	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.2	2.3	*6.9*	*5.0*	*
November	34.1	31.7	30.7	1.0	2.4	*7.0*	*5.5*	*
December	34.0	31.5	30.5	1.0	2.5	*7.3*	*6.2*	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	*6.9*	*6.0*	.2
1981								
January	33.5	30.8	30.0	.8	2.7	*8.1*	*7.5*	*
February	34.2	31.3	30.4	.9	2.9	*8.5*	*7.6*	*
March	34.7	32.1	31.1	1.0	2.6	*7.6*	*6.9*	*
April	35.7	33.1	31.8	1.3	2.6	*7.3*	*6.1*	*
May	35.6	33.2	31.9	1.3	2.4	*6.8*	*5.7*	*
June	*35.8*	*32.9*	*31.4*	*1.5*	*2.9*	*8.2*	*6.2*	*
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table III

RESIDENCE DATA

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1979								
January	53.2	50.0	49.0	1.0	3.2	*6.0*	*7.9*	*
February	53.0	50.3	49.2	1.1	2.7	*5.1*	*7.1*	*
March	53.0	50.6	49.3	1.3	2.4	*4.5*	*6.4*	*
April	54.2	52.1	50.5	1.6	2.1	*3.8*	*5.6*	*
May	54.8	53.1	51.5	1.6	1.7	*3.1*	*4.6*	*
June	57.2	55.0	53.2	1.8	2.2	*3.8*	*5.2*	*
July	56.0	54.2	52.2	2.0	1.8	*3.2*	*4.5*	*
August	57.0	55.3	53.2	2.1	1.7	*3.0*	*4.0*	*
September	56.3	54.8	53.2	1.6	1.5	*2.6*	*3.6*	*
October	55.7	54.2	52.8	1.4	1.5	*2.6*	*3.8*	*
November	55.7	54.0	52.8	1.2	1.7	*3.1*	*4.3*	*
December	55.3	53.3	52.3	1.0	2.0	*3.7*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	*3.7*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	54.9	52.0	51.0	1.0	2.9	*5.3*	*7.0*	.6
February	55.1	52.2	51.2	1.0	2.9	*5.3*	*6.7*	.7
March	55.4	52.5	51.3	1.2	2.9	*5.3*	*6.5*	.3
April	55.5	53.0	51.5	1.5	2.5	*4.4*	*6.4*	*
May	56.1	54.0	52.4	1.6	2.1	*3.8*	*5.2*	*
June	58.5	55.6	53.8	1.8	2.9	*5.0*	*6.0*	*
July	57.8	54.9	53.0	1.9	2.9	*5.0*	*6.2*	*
August	58.2	55.6	53.5	2.1	2.6	*4.5*	*5.4*	*
September	57.7	55.4	54.0	1.4	2.3	*4.0*	*4.8*	*
October	57.2	55.0	53.6	1.4	2.2	*3.8*	*5.0*	*
November	57.0	54.8	53.6	1.2	2.2	*3.8*	*5.5*	*
December	57.3	54.7	53.7	1.0	2.6	*4.5*	*6.2*	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	*4.6*	*6.0*	.1
1981								
January	55.8	52.7	51.8	.9	3.1	*5.6*	*7.5*	*
February	57.1	53.8	52.8	1.0	3.3	*5.8*	*7.6*	*
March	57.7	54.6	53.4	1.2	3.0	*5.2*	*6.9*	*
April	58.7	56.1	54.6	1.5	2.6	*4.4*	*6.1*	*
May	58.8	56.4	54.9	1.5	2.4	*4.2*	*5.7*	*
June	*61.3*	*58.1*	*56.3*	*1.8*	*3.2*	*5.3*	*6.2*	*
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1981	May 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	390.4	385.0	377.1	5.4	13.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	368.2	361.5	357.6	6.7	10.6
Persons Employed in Agriculture	33.6	32.6	34.4	1.0	-.8
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	22.2	23.5	19.5	-1.3	2.7
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*5.7*	*6.1*	*5.2*	*.4*	*-.5*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*6.3*	*5.9*	*5.9*	*.4*	*-.4*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	284.2	281.5	283.0	2.7	1.2
MANUFACTURING	23.0	22.8	22.4	.2	.6
Durable Goods	14.0	14.0	13.5	0	.5
24 Lumber and Wood Products	9.2	9.1	7.1	.1	2.1
33 Primary Metal Industries	1.9	1.9	3.1	0	-1.2
Other Durable Goods	2.9	2.9	3.3	0	-.4
Nondurable Goods	9.0	8.8	8.8	.2	.2
20 Food and Kindred Products	3.8	3.7	3.9	.1	-.1
27 Printing and Publishing	2.4	2.3	2.2	.1	.2
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.1	1.0	1.0	.1	.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.8	1.7	-.1	0
MINING	8.7	8.7	8.5	0	.2
10 Metal Mining	1.6	1.6	2.4	0	-.8
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	-.1
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	4.8	4.8	3.6	0	.8
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	14.3	13.8	14.9	.5	-.6
15 General Building Contractors	4.9	4.3	4.9	.6	0
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	4.2	4.2	4.1	0	.1
17 Special Trade Contractors	5.2	5.3	5.9	-.1	-.7
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	23.7	23.5	23.1	.2	.6
40 Railroad Transportation	7.7	7.7	7.1	0	.6
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	6.4	6.2	6.6	.2	-.2
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	9.6	9.6	9.5	0	.1
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	72.4	71.7	73.1	.7	-.7
Wholesale Trade	17.7	18.0	17.4	-.3	.3
Retail Trade	54.7	53.7	55.7	1.0	-1.0
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	7.8	7.7	8.2	.1	-.4
54 Food Stores	7.5	7.6	7.8	-.1	-.3
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	7.8	7.7	8.0	.1	-.2
58 Eating and Drinking Places	20.7	19.9	20.8	.8	-.1
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	10.8	10.7	10.9	.1	-.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	12.8	12.7	12.8	.1	0
SERVICES	57.8	57.2	55.9	.6	1.9
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	7.0	6.8	6.5	.2	.5
72 Personal Services	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	.1
80 Medical and other Health Services	18.7	18.7	18.0	0	.7
Other Services	29.3	28.8	28.7	.5	.6
GOVERNMENT	71.6	71.2	72.3	.4	-.7
91 Federal Government	13.9	13.3	13.7	.6	.2
92 State Colleges and Universities	7.9	7.9	8.3	0	-.4
92 Other State Government	10.4	10.6	10.6	-.2	-.2
93 Local Education	25.0	25.1	25.2	-.1	-.2
93 Other Local Government	14.3	14.2	14.4	.1	-.1

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(*Establishment Data in italics*)

TABLE V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1981	May 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/	35.6	35.7	34.4	-.1	1.2
EMPLOYED PERSONS	33.2	33.1	32.4	.1	.8
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.3	1.3	1.4	0	.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.4	2.6	2.0	-.2	.4
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted2/.....	*6.8*	*7.3*	*5.6*	*-.5*	*1.2*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted2/..	*7.8*	*7.6*	*6.7*	*.2*	*1.1*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	29.5	29.5	29.8	0	-.3
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.7	0	-.4
Contract Construction	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	-.1
Transportation and Public Utilities ...	1.9	1.8	1.9	.1	0
Trade	9.5	9.5	9.5	0	0
Wholesale Trade	2.9	3.0	2.8	-.1	.1
Retail Trade	6.5	6.5	6.7	0	-.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	-.1
Services and Mining	7.0	7.1	7.1	-.1	-.1
Government	6.1	6.1	5.8	0	.3
Federal Government	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
State and Local Government	4.3	4.3	4.0	0	.3

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

Current month preliminary *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks*

TABLE VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1981	May 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/	58.8	58.7	56.1	.1	2.7
EMPLOYED PERSONS	56.4	56.1	54.0	.3	2.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.4	2.6	2.1	-.2	.3
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted 2/	*4.2*	*4.4*	*3.8*	*-.2*	*.4*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted 2/	*4.8*	*4.5*	*4.5*	*.3*	*.3*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	47.7	47.5	47.4	.2	.3
Manufacturing	4.1	4.0	4.1	.1	0
Contract Construction	2.6	2.5	2.4	.1	.2
Transportation and Public Utilties	4.9	4.9	4.8	0	.1
Trade	15.7	15.7	16.0	0	-.3
Wholesale Trade	5.7	5.7	5.5	0	.2
Retail Trade	9.9	9.9	10.4	0	-.5
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.3	2.2	2.3	.1	0
Services and Mining	10.3	10.2	10.1	.1	.2
Government	7.7	8.0	7.7	-.3	0
Federal Government	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
State and Local Government	6.2	6.4	6.2	-.2	0

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

Current month preliminary *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks*

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1981
STATEWIDE	371.3	385.0	390.4	345.7	361.5	368.2	25.6	23.5	22.2	*6.9*	*6.1*	*5.7*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.7	35.7	35.6	32.1	33.1	33.2	2.6	2.6	2.4	*7.6*	*7.3*	*6.8*
BILLINGS SMSA	57.6	58.7	58.8	54.6	56.1	56.4	3.0	2.6	2.4	*5.2*	*4.4*	*4.2*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	279.0	290.6	296.0	259.1	272.3	278.7	19.9	18.3	17.3	*7.2*	*6.3*	*5.8*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	34.6	35.5	36.3	31.9	32.8	33.9	2.7	2.7	2.4	*7.7*	*7.5*	*6.7*
BOZEMAN	25.9	26.8	26.8	24.3	25.2	25.5	1.6	1.6	1.3	*6.2*	*5.8*	*4.8*
GLASGOW	17.0	18.2	18.8	16.1	17.5	18.1	.9	.7	.7	*5.1*	*3.9*	*3.9*
GLENDIVE	15.8	16.8	17.2	15.4	16.4	16.8	.4	.4	.4	*2.7*	*2.4*	*2.3*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.3	14.0	14.5	12.6	13.4	13.8	.7	.6	.7	*5.4*	*4.3*	*4.9*
HAVRE	12.8	13.5	13.8	12.0	12.8	13.1	.8	.7	.7	*5.9*	*5.1*	*5.1*
HELENA	28.4	29.2	29.9	27.0	27.9	28.5	1.4	1.3	1.4	*5.1*	*4.5*	*4.5*
KALISPELL	37.1	37.9	38.1	32.6	33.8	34.3	4.5	4.1	3.8	*12.1*	*10.8*	*9.8*
LEWISTOWN	10.3	11.0	11.3	9.8	10.6	10.9	.5	.4	.4	*4.7*	*3.2*	*3.3*
MILES CITY	16.7	17.5	18.1	15.9	16.8	17.5	.8	.7	.6	*4.7*	*3.7*	*3.5*
MISSOULA	49.9	51.2	51.6	45.2	46.8	47.7	4.7	4.4	3.9	*9.4*	*8.6*	*7.6*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	17.2	18.9	19.5	16.2	18.0	18.5	1.0	.9	1.0	*6.0*	*4.8*	*5.0*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	May 1981	May 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	May 1981	May 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	May 1981	May 1980	Net Change 1980-1981	May 1981	May 1980	Net Change 1980-1981
STATEWIDE	390.4	377.1	*3.5*	368.2	357.6	*3.0*	22.2	19.5	*2.7*	5.7	5.2	*.5*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35.6	34.3	*3.8*	33.2	32.4	*2.5*	2.4	1.9	*.5*	6.8	5.6	*1.2*
BILLINGS SMSA	58.8	56.1	*4.8*	56.4	54.0	*4.4*	2.4	2.1	*.3*	4.2	3.8	*.4*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	296.0	287.6	*3.2*	278.7	271.2	*2.8*	17.3	15.5	*1.8*	5.8	5.4	*.4*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	36.3	35.0	*3.7*	33.9	33.3	*1.8*	2.4	1.7	*.7*	6.7	5.0	*1.7*
BOZEMAN	26.8	27.0	*-.7*	25.5	25.6	*-.4*	1.3	1.4	*-.1*	4.8	5.1	*-.3*
GLASGOW	18.8	17.5	*7.4*	18.1	17.0	*6.5*	.7	.5	*.2*	3.9	2.8	*.9*
GLENDIVE	17.2	16.2	*6.2*	16.8	15.9	*5.7*	.4	.3	*.1*	2.3	2.0	*.3*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	14.5	14.1	*2.8*	13.8	13.6	*1.5*	.7	.5	*.2*	4.9	3.5	*1.4*
HAVRE	13.8	13.3	*3.8*	13.1	12.7	*3.1*	.7	.6	*.1*	5.1	4.6	*.5*
HELENA	29.9	28.7	*4.2*	28.5	27.5	*3.6*	1.4	1.2	*.2*	4.5	4.3	*.2*
KALISPELL	38.1	38.1	*0*	34.3	34.2	*.3*	3.8	3.9	*-.1*	9.8	10.2	*-.4*
LEWISTOWN	11.3	11.4	*-.9*	10.9	11.0	*-.9*	.4	.4	*0*	3.3	3.9	*-.6*
MILES CITY	18.1	17.1	*5.8*	17.5	16.5	*6.1*	.6	.6	*0*	3.5	3.6	*-.1*
MISSOULA	51.6	49.5	*4.2*	47.7	46.0	*3.7*	3.9	3.5	*.4*	7.6	7.0	*.6*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	19.5	18.7	*4.3*	18.5	17.9	*3.3*	1.0	.8	*.2*	5.0	4.1	*.9*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

TABLE IX-A

April 1981

(Revised)

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	385000	361453	23547	6.1
CASCADE	36746	33129	2617	7.3
YELLOWSTONE	58658	56070	2588	4.4
BEAVERHEAD	4246	4087	159	3.7
BIG HORN	6015	5592	323	5.4
BLAINE	3112	2917	195	6.3
BROADWATER	1338	1274	64	4.8
CARBON	3522	3357	165	4.7
CARTER	884	874	10	1.1
CHOUTEAU	3196	3150	46	1.4
CUSTER	6532	6289	243	3.7
DANIELS	1493	1468	25	1.7
DAWSON	6177	6009	168	2.7
DEER LODGE	4759	3911	848	17.8
FALLON	2481	2446	35	1.4
FERGUS	5958	5739	219	3.7
FLATHEAD	23117	20808	2309	10.0
GALLATIN	19676	18653	1023	5.2
GARFIELD	881	874	7	.8
GLACIER	5951	5348	603	10.1
GOLDEN VALLEY	415	406	9	2.2
GRANITE	1150	1066	84	7.3
HILL	9120	8651	469	5.1
JEFFERSON	2484	2348	136	5.5
JUDITH BASIN	1176	1151	25	2.1
LAKE	8018	7499	519	6.5
LEWIS AND CLARK	25409	24285	1124	4.4
LIBERTY	1267	1240	27	2.1
LINCOLN	6746	5488	1258	18.6
MC CONE	1227	1211	16	1.3
MADISON	2512	2405	107	4.3
MEAGHER	1119	1059	60	5.4
MINERAL	1877	1675	202	10.8
MISSOULA	37489	34512	2977	7.9
MUSSELSHELL	1814	1759	55	3.0
PARK	6001	5527	474	7.9
PETROLEUM	319	309	10	3.1
PHILLIPS	3259	3145	114	3.5
PONDERA	3750	3656	94	2.5
POWDER RIVER	1277	1258	19	1.5
POWELL	3814	3533	281	7.4
PRAIRIE	944	912	32	3.4
RAVALLI	7919	7114	805	10.2
RICHLAND	6825	6656	169	2.5
ROOSEVELT	5303	5056	247	4.7
ROSEBUD	5861	5521	340	5.8
SANDERS	3913	3500	413	10.6
SHERIDAN	3224	3198	26	.8
SILVER BOW	19009	17838	1171	6.2
STILLWATER	2377	2305	72	3.0
SWEET GRASS	2118	2081	37	1.7
TETON	2944	2859	85	2.9
TOOLE	3092	3008	84	2.7
TREASURE	471	464	7	1.5
VALLEY	4954	4667	297	6.0
WHEATLAND	1295	1257	38	2.9
WIBAUX	756	739	17	2.2

TABLE IX-B

May 1981

(Preliminary)

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	390387	368212	22175	5.7
CASCADE	35578	33162	2416	6.8
YELLOWSTONE	58839	56374	2465	4.2
BEAVERHEAD	4354	4217	137	3.1
BIG HORN	6451	5986	465	7.2
BLAINE	3138	2936	202	6.4
BROADWATER	1424	1353	71	5.0
CARBON	3534	3390	144	4.1
CARTER	904	891	13	1.4
CHOUTEAU	3312	3239	73	2.2
CUSTER	6826	6590	236	3.5
DANIELS	1532	1513	19	1.2
DAWSON	6313	6151	162	2.6
DEER LODGE	4641	3938	703	15.1
FALLON	2598	2530	68	2.6
FERGUS	6130	5891	239	3.9
FLATHEAD	23031	20863	2168	9.4
GALLATIN	19659	18799	860	4.4
GARFIELD	882	876	6	.7
GLACIER	6204	5553	651	10.5
GOLDEN VALLEY	431	421	10	2.3
GRANITE	1221	1102	119	9.7
HILL	9292	8817	475	5.1
JEFFERSON	2609	2455	154	5.9
JUDITH BASIN	1227	1204	23	1.9
LAKE	8120	7606	514	6.3
LEWIS AND CLARK	25837	24718	1119	4.3
LIBERTY	1339	1311	28	2.1
LINCOLN	6935	5867	1068	15.4
MC CONE	1263	1245	18	1.4
MADISON	2625	2525	100	3.8
MEAGHER	1086	1039	47	4.3
MINERAL	1808	1642	166	9.2
MISSOULA	37799	35109	2690	7.1
MUSSELSHELL	1866	1822	44	2.4
PARK	6055	5668	387	6.4
PETROLEUM	325	315	10	3.1
PHILLIPS	3308	3188	120	3.6
PONDERA	3806	3713	93	2.4
POWDER RIVER	1324	1306	18	1.4
POWELL	3813	3590	223	5.8
PRAIRIE	979	944	35	3.6
RAVALLI	8122	7377	745	9.2
RICHLAND	6964	6813	151	2.2
ROOSEVELT	5512	5258	254	4.6
ROSEBUD	5990	5708	282	4.7
SANDERS	3931	3599	332	8.4
SHERIDAN	3302	3274	28	.8
SILVER BOW	19683	18514	1169	5.9
STILLWATER	2411	2353	58	2.4
SWEET GRASS	2123	2081	42	2.0
TETON	3001	2931	70	2.3
TOOLE	3162	3077	85	2.7
TREASURE	495	481	14	2.8
VALLEY	5141	4831	310	6.0
WHEATLAND	1338	1288	50	3.7
WIBAUX	794	768	26	3.3

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
				Net Change to Current Month From:		Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
	May 1981 1/	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Apr. 1981	May 1980	May 1981		Apr. 1981	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	132.7	132.5	129.5	.2	3.2	284.2	46.7%	281.5	47.1%
Manufacturing	2.9	2.8	2.6	.1	.3	23.0	12.7%	22.8	12.5%
Mining	.5	.5	.5	0	0	8.7	5.3%	8.7	5.3%
Contract Construction	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	.1	14.3	10.4%	13.8	10.9%
Transportation & Public Utilities .	4.3	4.3	4.4	0	-.1	23.7	18.2%	23.5	18.3%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.4	35.4	36.0	0	-.6	72.4	48.9%	71.7	49.4%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	8.4	8.4	8.4	0	0	12.8	65.9%	12.7	65.9%
Services	35.2	35.2	34.1	0	1.1	57.8	60.9%	57.2	61.6%
Government 2/	44.5	44.4	42.1	.1	2.4	71.6	62.2%	71.2	62.5%

1/ *Current month preliminary. Revised to 1980 Benchmark. Establishment Series began January 1974.*
2/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.*
Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

1980

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	133.0	132.9	130.9	129.4	129.5	134.0	128.7	129.8	130.5	132.6	133.2	133.1	131.5
Manufacturing.....	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Mining.....	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction.....	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	36.5	36.5	35.6	35.7	36.0	35.9	36.2	36.1	35.9	35.9	36.1	36.7	36.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.4
Services.....	36.2	36.2	34.3	34.5	34.1	37.2	37.2	34.2	34.1	34.5	34.7	34.7	35.2
Government.....	42.5	42.5	43.1	41.9	42.1	43.3	37.6	41.7	42.9	43.8	44.6	43.9	42.5

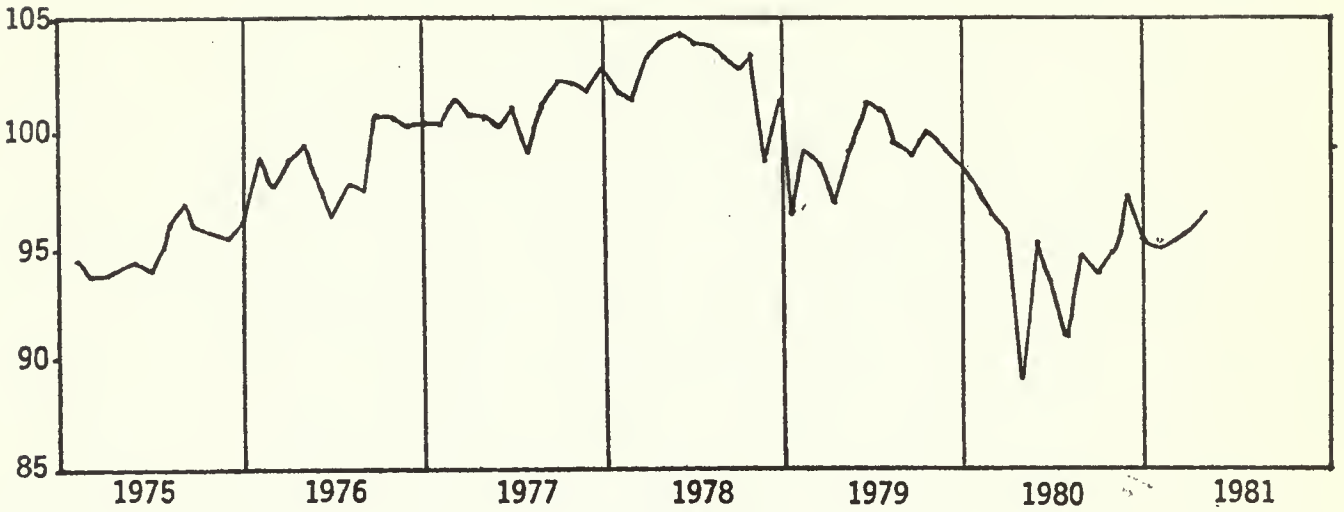
1981

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May
Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	131.7	132.7	132.7	132.5	132.7
Manufacturing.....	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9
Mining.....	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction.....	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade.....	35.5	35.4	35.4	35.4	35.4
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.4
Services.....	34.5	35.5	35.3	35.2	35.2
Government.....	44.0	44.6	44.6	44.4	44.5

1/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1980 Benchmark.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS



1972 = 100

Monthly Figures of Composite Index

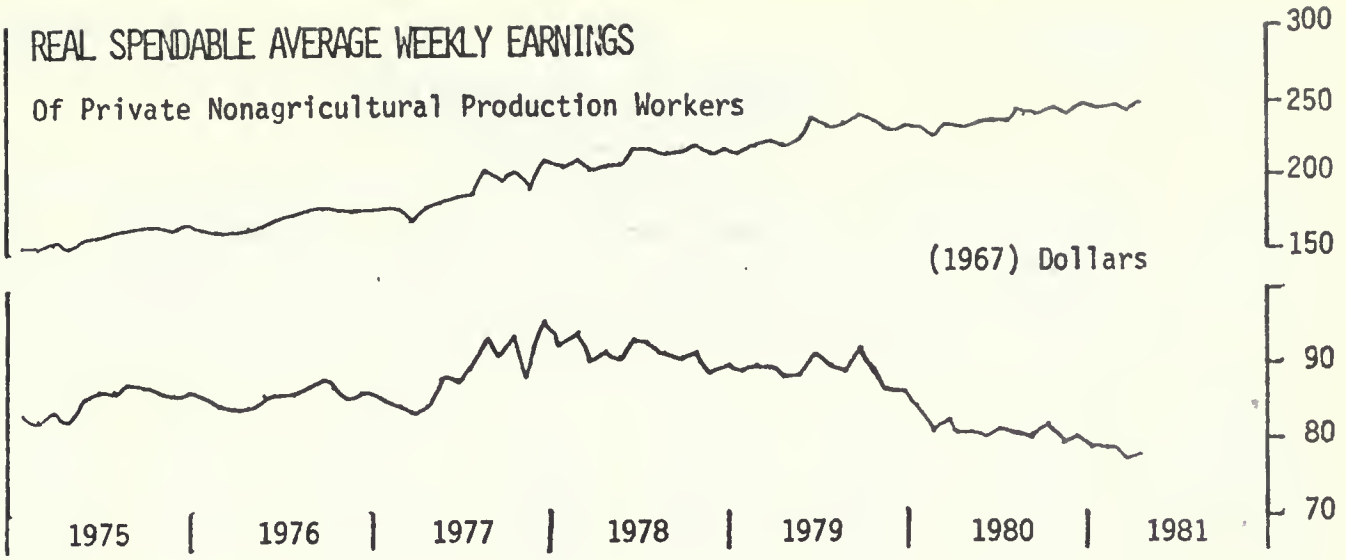
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
January	94.8	99.1	100.4	101.9	96.8	97.2	95.1
February	94.1	97.9	101.6	101.7	99.3	96.2	95.4
March	94.2	98.6	100.8	103.5	98.9	95.4	95.9
April	94.4	99.5	100.8	104.2	97.2	88.6	96.8
May	94.6	98.4	100.4	104.3	99.4	94.3	
June	96.5	96.8	101.1	104.0	101.3	92.6	
July	96.3	98.0	99.4	103.8	101.0	90.4	
August	97.7	97.9	101.2	103.2	99.8	93.9	
September	96.3	100.8	102.3	102.8	99.6	93.3	
October	96.1	100.7	102.2	103.6	100.5	95.0	
November	95.8	100.5	101.9	99.0	99.8	97.4	
December	96.5	100.5	102.9	101.5	98.7	95.5	

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

A considerable increase is noted in Montana's composite index from March to April. A composite index of 96.8 for April is much higher than April, 1980 which figured at 88.6. The reason for the increase was that there was only one component of the composite index recording negative movement. Building Permits dropped from 649 in March to 315 in April. Another big factor was that the manufacturing accession rate rose from 2.0 to 6.5 in April. The other components of the index showed little, if any change.

Components of Composite Index:

Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits; and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	248.29	244.84	232.23
3/ Taxes Withheld	41.65	40.68	35.88
Spendable Earnings	206.63	204.17	196.35
Adjustment for Price Changes since 1967	129.18	127.18	115.41
Real Spendable Earnings	77.45	76.99	80.94

	1) Average Weekly Earnings			2) Real Spendable Earnings		
	1981	1980	1979	1981	1980	1979
January	245.28	232.60	215.42	78.44	84.36	89.20
Febuary	247.52	224.93	219.57	78.20	80.79	89.60
March	244.84	234.24	221.43	76.99	82.44	89.29
April	248.29	232.23	220.68	77.45	80.94	88.10
May		234.15	225.42		80.67	88.52
June		234.97	236.99		80.02	91.26
July		238.82	233.87		81.08	89.41
August		239.47	234.99		80.75	88.73
September		241.60	238.74		80.63	91.96
October		246.66	236.90		81.37	89.02
November		241.89	230.62		79.29	86.22
December		247.75	233.24			86.12

Real Spendable Earnings

After dropping considerably in March, real spendable earnings rose in April to $77.45. This compares to $76.99 in March and $80.94 in April, 1980. Gross average weekly earnings are as high as ever, but inflation continues to eat a big chunk from that amount. The consumer price index, which is used as a measure of inflation, has been rising at a slower rate than the same period one year ago. The increase in the consumer price index from March to April was 0.6%.

1/ Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultrual production workers.
2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.
3/ Taxes computed on family with four exemptions.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] Montana	Percent[1] U. S.	
1979								
January	369.7	347.0	314.4	32.6	22.7	6.1	5.8	*
February	369.0	348.3	315.7	32.6	20.9	5.6	5.7	.1
March	367.1	347.4	314.9	32.5	19.7	5.4	5.7	*
April	368.7	348.7	316.3	32.4	20.0	5.4	5.8	*
May	370.5	351.1	318.8	32.3	19.4	5.2	5.8	.1
June	372.7	354.0	321.8	32.2	18.7	5.0	5.7	.1
July	368.0	349.9	317.8	32.1	18.1	4.9	5.7	*
August	368.1	350.6	318.6	32.0	17.5	4.8	5.9	.1
September	370.2	352.6	320.6	32.0	17.6	4.8	5.8	*
October	371.9	354.2	322.2	32.0	17.7	4.8	5.9	*
November	371.9	354.4	322.4	32.0	17.5	4.7	5.8	*
December	372.4	353.8	321.8	32.0	18.6	5.0	5.9	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	5.1	5.8	.1
1980								
January	375.7	355.8	323.8	32.0	19.9	5.3	6.2	.7
February	376.1	356.3	324.4	31.9	19.8	5.3	6.2	1.1
March	376.5	355.9	324.2	31.7	20.6	5.8	6.3	.7
April	375.2	352.2	320.7	31.5	23.0	6.1	6.9	.3
May	374.4	352.5	321.1	31.4	21.9	5.9	7.6	.2
June	376.0	353.9	322.7	31.2	22.1	5.9	7.5	.2
July	370.0	345.4	314.3	31.1	24.6	6.7	7.6	2.7
August	370.9	348.0	317.0	31.0	22.9	6.2	7.6	2.6
September	370.7	348.2	317.0	31.2	22.5	6.1	7.4	3.1
October	372.9	350.6	319.3	31.3	22.3	6.0	7.6	1.3
November	375.2	353.1	321.8	31.3	22.1	5.9	7.5	1.3
December	374.6	352.2	320.8	31.4	22.4	6.0	7.4	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	6.0	7.1	1.2
1981								
January	375.5	354.1	322.7	31.4	21.4	5.7	7.4	*
February	382.0	358.5	327.2	31.3	23.5	6.2	7.3	1.0
March	384.8	362.1	331.1	31.0	22.7	5.9	7.3	*
April	389.5	366.5	335.8	30.7	23.0	5.9	7.3	*
May	387.6	363.1	332.5	30.6	24.5	6.3	7.6	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIII

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1979								
January	34.4	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.6	7.6	6.1	*
February	34.5	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.5	7.3	5.6	*
March	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.4	*
April	34.3	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.4	*
May	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	6.6	5.2	*
June	33.8	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.0	5.8	5.0	*
July	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	6.1	4.9	*
August	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.1	4.8	*
September	33.7	31.8	30.5	1.3	1.9	5.7	4.8	*
October	33.3	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.6	4.7	4.8	*
November	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	5.6	4.7	*
December	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	5.6	5.0	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
1980								
January	34.1	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.0	5.9	5.3	*
February	34.5	32.4	31.1	1.3	2.1	6.0	5.3	*
March	34.4	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.1	6.0	5.5	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.2	6.6	6.1	*
May	34.2	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.3	6.7	5.9	.2
June	33.5	31.0	29.6	1.2	2.5	7.5	5.9	.2
July	34.4	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.7	7.9	6.7	.5
August	34.3	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.6	7.4	6.2	.4
September	34.0	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.4	6.9	6.1	.4
October	34.2	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.6	7.5	6.0	*
November	34.4	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.5	7.2	5.9	*
December	34.5	32.0	30.6	1.2	2.5	7.2	6.0	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	6.9	6.0	.2
1981								
January	34.5	32.3	31.1	1.2	2.2	6.3	5.7	*
February	35.6	32.9	31.7	1.2	2.7	7.4	6.2	*
March	35.4	32.9	31.7	1.2	2.5	7.0	5.9	*
April	36.2	33.5	32.3	1.2	2.7	7.6	5.9	*
May	35.4	32.6	31.4	1.2	2.8	7.8	6.3	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*
* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XIV

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1979								
January	54.7	52.2	50.7	1.5	2.5	4.5	6.1	*
February	54.7	52.5	51.0	1.5	2.2	4.1	5.6	*
March	54.4	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.4	*
April	55.0	52.9	51.4	1.5	2.1	3.9	5.4	*
May	55.2	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.2	*
June	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	3.5	5.0	*
July	55.0	53.1	51.6	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.9	*
August	55.6	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.8	*
September	55.4	53.5	52.0	1.5	1.9	3.3	4.8	*
October	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.8	*
November	55.7	53.7	52.2	1.5	2.0	3.6	4.7	*
December	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.6	5.0	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.1	*
1980								
January	56.3	54.1	52.6	1.5	2.2	3.9	5.3	.6
February	56.8	54.3	52.8	1.5	2.5	4.4	5.3	.7
March	56.7	54.2	52.7	1.5	2.5	4.5	5.5	.3
April	56.3	53.8	52.4	1.4	2.5	4.5	6.1	*
May	56.5	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.5	4.5	5.9	*
June	56.7	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.7	4.7	5.9	*
July	56.9	53.9	52.5	1.4	3.0	5.3	6.7	*
August	56.7	53.9	52.5	1.4	2.8	4.9	6.2	*
September	56.8	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.7	4.8	6.1	*
October	56.9	54.3	52.9	1.4	2.6	4.5	6.0	*
November	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	4.3	5.9	*
December	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	4.4	6.0	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	4.6	6.0	.1
1981								
January	57.2	54.8	53.4	1.4	2.4	4.2	5.7	*
February	58.8	55.9	54.5	1.4	2.9	4.8	6.2	*
March	58.9	56.3	54.9	1.4	2.6	4.4	5.9	*
April	59.5	56.8	55.4	1.4	2.7	4.5	5.9	*
May	59.2	56.3	54.9	1.4	2.9	4.8	6.3	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1981	April 1981	May 1980	May 1981	April 1981	May 1980	May 1981	April 1981	May 1980
TOTAL PRIVATE	245.20	248.29	234.15	35.9	36.3	36.7	6.83	6.84	6.38
MANUFACTURING	367.52	369.55	381.00	40.7	40.7	43.1	9.03	9.08	8.84
Durable Goods	363.13	361.82	397.34	39.6	39.5	44.1	9.17	9.16	9.01
Primary Metal Industries	437.17	437.17	417.99	36.1	36.1	41.1	12.11	12.11	10.17
Nondurable Goods	375.78	383.56	355.68	42.8	43.0	41.6	8.78	8.92	8.56
Food and Kindred Products	307.96	312.06	306.91	41.9	42.4	45.2	7.35	7.36	6.79
MINING	464.54	455.51	408.88	41.7	41.0	47.6	11.14	11.11	8.59
Metal Mining	515.39	515.39	396.01	41.1	41.1	36.6	12.54	12.54	10.82
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	366.42	394.13	383.72	36.1	39.1	37.4	10.15	10.08	10.26
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	365.25	362.32	336.23	43.9	43.6	42.4	8.32	8.31	7.93
Communications, Electric Gas, Sanitary Services	391.78	389.50	363.34	50.1	50.0	49.3	7.82	7.79	7.37
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	197.80	202.82	196.17	31.8	32.4	34.3	6.22	6.26	5.69
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	154.98	158.30	157.45	36.9	36.9	33.5	4.20	4.29	4.70
SERVICES	157.88	159.50	140.68	34.1	34.3	33.9	4.63	4.65	4.15

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

	ACCESSION RATES									SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.
MANUFACTURING	6.7	1.3	1.6	1.0	0.8	0.9	5.7	0.4	0.6	2.3	2.3	19.7	1.4	0.7	0.8	0.4	1.4	18.6
Durable Goods	9.9	1.2	1.2	0.7	0.5	0.3	9.2	0.6	0.8	1.9	3.1	30.7	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.5	2.4	30.1
Primary Metal Industries	1.4	0.3	1.7	0.3	0.0	0.1	1.2	0.3	1.2	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.6	1.5	2.3	1.5	1.4	2.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	3.0	1.1	2.7	2.0	0.9	1.4	0.2	0.0	0.8
MINING	3.0	3.9	7.2	2.1	3.6	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	8.2	6.1	6.7	7.2	4.6	1.9	0.0	1.2	0.2
Metal Mining	1.1	1.4	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	4.8	7.0	2.0	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.1	5.0	0.0

* *Less than .05.*

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggrigate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year. Foreign corporation classification has been added and are considered established corporations from other states registered to do business in Montana. County tabulation is not possible, only industry structure is known.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	May 1981	May 1980	Year to Date 1981	Year to Date 1980
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	25	17	157	146
MINING	73	32	316	138
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	67	26	264	214
MANUFACTURING	22	10	118	93
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	37	11	147	99
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	140	76	714	533
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	70	28	354	202
SERVICES	139	83	817	664
NON-PROFIT SERVICES	(37)	(21)	(192)	(160)
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	14	3	73	65
STATE TOTAL	587	286	2960	2154

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS May 1981	May 1980	Year to Date 1981	1980
STATE OF MONTANA	587	286	2960	2154
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35	24	195	158
BILLINGS SMSA	69	30	380	300
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS MULTI-COUNTY	129	41	597	228
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	38	27	182	140
Beaverhead	4	3	34	23
Deer Lodge	6	2	25	9
Granite	2	0	4	6
Madison	10	8	24	23
Powell	3	5	9	20
Silver Bow	13	9	86	59
BOZEMAN LMA	41	12	190	141
Gallatin	30	11	150	103
Meagher	0	0	3	7
Park	11	1	37	31
GLASGOW LMA	22	8	91	68
Daniels	0	0	3	4
Phillips	3	0	14	12
Roosevelt	6	3	27	22
Sheridan	10	3	30	14
Valley	3	2	17	16
GLENDIVE LMA	34	19	159	122
Dawson	9	4	51	34
Garfield	1	0	3	3
McCone	1	0	13	12
Prairie	0	0	2	6
Richland	21	15	85	66
Wibaux	2	0	5	1
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	14	5	57	49
Big Horn	6	0	12	12
Carbon	2	1	15	14
Stillwater	5	2	23	16
Sweet Grass	1	2	7	7

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS May 1981	May 1980	Year to Date 1981	1980
HAVRE LMA	16	14	92	63
Blaine	4	8	14	19
Hill	11	6	72	36
Liberty	1	0	6	8
HELENA LMA	33	18	186	136
Broadwater	2	2	6	4
Jefferson	4	0	18	8
Lewis and Clark	27	16	162	124
KALISPELL LMA	54	36	282	263
Flathead	32	26	191	177
Lake	8	7	48	44
Lincoln	14	3	43	42
LEWISTOWN LMA	3	6	49	48
Fergus	0	3	24	27
Golden Valley	0	0	0	2
Judith Basin	1	1	4	4
Musselshell	2	2	13	13
Petroleum	0	0	2	1
Wheatland	0	0	6	1
MILES CITY LMA	19	10	89	72
Carter	0	1	2	5
Custer	7	5	37	20
Fallon	1	3	11	23
Powder River	2	0	12	6
Rosebud	9	1	26	17
Treasure	0	0	1	1
MISSOULA LMA	59	18	303	258
Mineral	1	2	7	7
Missoula	43	11	198	185
Ravalli	11	5	74	50
Sanders	4	0	24	16
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	21	18	108	108
Choteau	1	1	10	15
Glacier	10	4	36	32
Pondera	2	2	12	21
Teton	1	3	12	11
Toole	7	8	38	29

Sources of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons: to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individuals's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under Montana law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

STAS-1508 DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

MAY 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	136	13,488.48
BIGHORN	288	27,095.12
BLAINE	171	12,509.32
BROADWATER	69	7,370.00
CARBON	193	20,925.82
CARTER	5	655.00
CASCADE	2,984	296,210.40
CHOUTEAU	29	2,228.00
CUSTER	267	26,826.84
DANIELS	14	1,496.00
DAWSON	89	8,818.00
DEER LODGE	877	98,232.66
FALLON	30	2,586.00
FERGUS	210	17,990.37
FLATHEAD	3,735	379,137.38
GALLATIN	1,244	108,854.02
GARFIELD	0	0.00
GLACIER	764	60,400.71
GOLDEN VALLEY	12	1,135.36
GRANITE	65	6,305.43
HILL	511	43,815.91
JEFFERSON	120	13,253.00
JUDITH BASIN	32	2,621.07
LAKE	529	51,700.18
LEWIS AND CLARK	1,491	138,965.93
LIBERTY	32	3,148.00
LINCOLN	1,703	184,647.15
MCCONE	11	953.00
MADISON	79	8,665.00
MEAGHER	46	4,123.00
MINERAL	170	16,639.98
MISSOULA	4,027	401,030.56
MUSSELSHELL	75	8,057.00
PARK	492	42,592.31
PETROLEUM	7	468.00
PHILLIPS	106	9,582.00
PONDERA	49	4,459.00
POWDER RIVER	5	655.00
POWELL	333	35,240.12
PRAIRIE	23	2,349.51
RAVALLI	1,033	103,340.93
RICHLAND	102	9,148.83
ROOSEVELT	152	14,276.68
ROSEBUD	283	29,765.69
SANDERS	345	33,917.87
SHERIDAN	18	1,623.00
SILVER BOW	1,616	161,556.89
STILLWATER	96	9,077.04
SWEET GRASS	33	3,877.00
TETON	59	6,496.00
TOOLE	77	6,315.00
TREASURE	12	1,296.00
VALLEY	349	36,495.19
WHEATLAND	24	2,315.00
WIBAUX	12	1,257.00
YELLOWSTONE	3,332	330,849.72
INTRASTATE	28,681	2,822,031.59
INTERSTATE	1,254	261,374.19
TOTAL	29,935	3,083,405.78

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1981 THRU MAY 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	1,446	140,923.24
BIGHORN	2,135	216,661.86
BLAINE	1,328	113,533.18
BROADWATER	674	74,360.05
CARBON	1,567	165,276.58
CARTER	41	4,659.00
CASCADE	25,060	2,640,458.23
CHOUTEAU	271	25,578.00
CUSTER	2,436	245,616.28
DANIELS	165	17,803.00
DAWSON	791	79,503.00
DEER LODGE	9,894	1,162,664.08
FALLON	212	18,769.76
FERGUS	2,161	200,781.15
FLATHEAD	22,914	2,239,717.52
GALLATIN	10,346	949,948.59
GARFIELD	19	1,588.00
GLACIER	4,566	385,973.99
GOLDEN VALLEY	90	7,877.00
GRANITE	534	54,402.38
HILL	3,262	299,785.98
JEFFERSON	1,154	124,173.91
JUDITH BASIN	163	16,900.15
LAKE	4,771	440,358.56
LEWIS AND CLARK	10,569	1,021,089.49
LIBERTY	247	23,310.40
LINCOLN	10,134	1,033,896.02
MCCONE	69	5,600.00
MADISON	835	81,110.56
MEAGHER	523	49,495.06
MINERAL	1,673	172,487.96
MISSOULA	29,387	2,934,698.65
MUSSELSHELL	497	49,545.00
PARK	3,631	314,698.68
PETROLEUM	51	3,239.00
PHILLIPS	867	82,818.38
PONDERA	831	82,817.31
POWDER RIVER	101	11,240.00
POWELL	1,830	183,830.98
PRAIRIE	251	26,217.91
RAVALLI	7,111	695,666.37
RICHLAND	611	55,722.93
ROOSEVELT	1,383	126,402.24
ROSEBUD	2,703	294,738.83
SANDERS	3,989	385,750.02
SHERIDAN	171	16,230.00
SILVER BOW	11,595	1,184,568.50
STILLWATER	963	102,823.51
SWEET GRASS	421	45,202.00
TETON	654	67,363.00
TOOLE	710	71,513.07
TREASURE	86	8,894.00
VALLEY	2,330	241,414.92
WHEATLAND	170	15,779.00
WIBAUX	103	10,118.00
YELLOWSTONE	25,358	2,610,745.09
INTRASTATE	215,854	21,641,456.33
INTERSTATE	8,909	1,486,016.72
TOTAL	224,763	23,127,473.05

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1981	1980	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims[1/]	21,111	27,748	-6,637	*-23.9*
Continued Claims[1/]	249,214	284,000	-34,786	*-12.2*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	224,763	241,604	-16,841	*-7.0*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$23,127,473	$22,478,860	$648,613	*2.9*
Average Weekly Benefit Amount[1/2/]	$110.63	$97.63	$13.00	*13.3*

MONTHLY

	May 1981	April 1981	May 1980	Change From Year Ago Net	Percent
Initial Claims[1/]	3,015	3,653	3,139	-124	*-4.0*
Continued Claims[1/]	33,513	45,804	44,944	-11,428	*-25.4*
Number of Benefit Payments[1/]	29,935	44,875	40,475	-10,540	*-26.0*
Amount of Benefits Paid[1/]	$3,083,406	$4,599,535	$3,858,095	-$774,689	*-20.1*
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt[1/2/]	$111.51	$109.85	$100.67	$10.84	*10.8*
Trust Fund Balance	$21,535,653	$14,934,511	$17,731,267*	$3,804,386	*21.5*

1/ Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.
2/ Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".
** Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to $7,084,089.*

Initial claims continued to decrease reflected by the 17.5% decline from April to May. The change from May of a year ago is minimal while the year-to-date net change remains quite significant. Continued claims showed a significant decrease for the second straight month--slipping 26.8% from April and 25.4% from May of a year ago.

The number of benefit payments took a dive, decreasing 33.3% from April to May and 26% from May of a year ago. Because of the tremendous reduction in benefit payments, the amount of benefit payments also decreased 33.3% from April to May and 20% from May of a year ago.

The average weekly benefit amount started to creep upward again in May, showing a gain of 1.5% from April and 10.8% from May of a year ago. Effective July 1, 1981 the maximum benefit amount increases to $145 from $131 and the minimum amount will increase from $33 to $36.

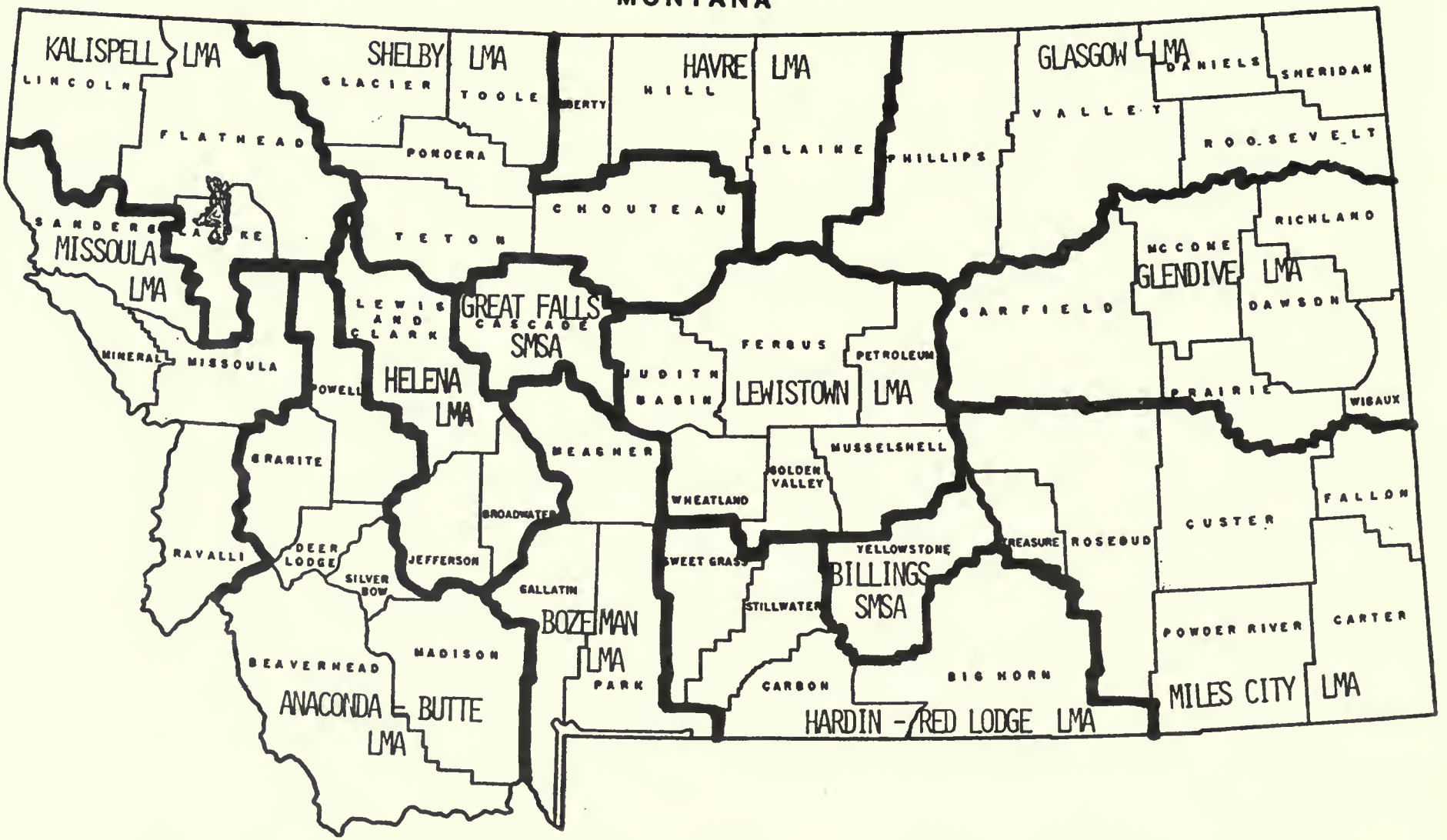
The Trust Fund balance continues its climb upward as the first quarter contributions are received and the amount of benefit payments decrease. This is reflected by the Fund increase of 44% from April and 21.5% from May of a year ago.

The year-to-date figures continue on a positive note as initial claims, continued claims, and the number of benefit payments remain considerably less than a year ago. The amount of benefits paid and the average weekly benefit amount remain ahead of last year but the rate of gain has decreased.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

IN

MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
OF MONTANA
P.O. BOX 1728
HELENA, MONTANA 59624

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE $300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
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MAIL
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BULK RATE

The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 24 local Job Service offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.

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